

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. This action is response to attorney's requested to re-send due to mail returned to USPTO as undelivered on 6/2/2008. The mailing address had been verified.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11, 13, 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Forslow (20030039237).

Regarding claim 1 Forslow teaches a method of registering a multimode mobile station (MS, fig. 2) in a telecommunications system, which telecommunications system comprises a home location register (HLR 42, fig. 2) for maintaining mobile subscriber data and supports a first network (35) and a second network (51, 58), the method comprising (fig. 2,9-10):

the home location register (HLR 42, fig. 2), maintaining the mobile subscriber data (para. # 0011, fig. 2), and receiving from another network element, a message for requesting the mobile subscriber data, the mobile subscriber data comprising address

information for accessing the mobile subscriber via the first and the second network (para. # 0013-0014, 0023-0024);

the home location register (HLR 42, fig. 2) maintaining a subscriber-specific access parameter which indicates, independently of the address information, whether the mobile subscriber is entitled to use the first network, the second network or both networks (para. # 0011, 0030-0032 and 0050);

wherein the first network and second network are provided by a common operator and the first network and second network are of different type (para. # 0030, 0050, 0053-0054);

in response to said message for requesting the subscriber data, the home location register sending the mobile subscriber data and also said subscriber-specific access parameter (para. # 0050, 0075, and 0099);

whereby the network element that requested the mobile subscriber data is operable to use said subscriber-specific access parameter for restricting the access of the mobile subscriber only to the first network or to the second network (para. # 0083 see above).

Regarding claim 2 Forslow teaches a method of registering a multimode mobile station in a telecommunications system, which telecommunications system comprises a home location register for maintaining mobile subscriber data and supports a first network and a second network, wherein the first network and second network are provided by a common operator, and the first network and second network are of different type (para. # 0030-0032, 0050, 0053-0054, fig. 2),

mobile subscriber data comprising address information for accessing the mobile subscriber via the first and the second network, and a subscriber-specific access parameter indicating, independently of the address information, whether the mobile subscriber is entitled to use the first network, the second network or both networks (para. # 0011, 0030-0032 and 0050),

the method comprising:

sending from another network element to the home location register a message for requesting the mobile subscriber data, the mobile subscriber data comprising said subscriber-specific access parameter indicating, independently of the address information, whether the mobile subscriber is entitled to use the first network, the second network or both networks (para. # 0013-0014, 0023-0024);

the network element that requested the mobile subscriber data using said subscriber-specific access parameter to restrict the access of the mobile subscriber only to the first and/or the second network (para. # 0083 see above).

Regarding claim 8 Forslow teaches a home location register comprises (abstract, figs. 2-5, 9-10)

a data structure which comprises embodied in a tangible medium, the data structure (abstract)

mobile subscriber data for registering a multimode mobile station in a telecommunications system which supports a first network a second network and multimode mobile station, the mobile subscriber data comprising address information for

accessing the mobile subscriber via the first and second network (para. # 0011, 0013, 0030-0032 and 0050);

a subscriber-specific access parameter which indicates, independently of address information whether the mobile subscriber is entitled to use the first network, the second network or both networks (para. # 0011, 0030-0032 and 0050);

wherein the first network and second network are provided by a common operator and the first network and the second network are of different type (para. # 0030, 0050, 0053-0054).

Regarding claim 15 Forslow teaches a network element for a telecommunications system, which telecommunications system comprises a home location register for maintaining mobile subscriber data for registering a multimode mobile station in the telecommunications system which supports a first network, a second network, and multimode mobile stations, the mobile subscriber data comprising address information for accessing the mobile subscriber via the first and the second network and a subscriber-specific access parameter indicating, independently of the address information, whether the mobile subscriber is entitled to use the first network, the second network or both networks, the network element comprising (para. # 0011, 0030-0032 and 0050, fig. 2, 9-10):

means for sending to the home location register a message for requesting the mobile subscriber data, the mobile subscriber data comprising said subscriber-specific access parameter indicating, independently of the address information, whether the

mobile subscriber is entitled to use the first network, the second network or both networks (para. # 0013-0014, 0023-0024, see claim 1);

means for using said subscriber-specific access parameter to restrict the access of the mobile subscriber only to the first and/or the second network (para. # 0083, see claim 1);

wherein the first network and second network are provided by a common operator, and the first network and the second network are of different type (para. # 0030, 0050, 0053-0054).

Regarding claim 3 Forslow teaches the mobile subscriber's access can be restricted only to one network even though a short message service had been defined for the mobile subscriber (para. # 0003, 0030-0032 and 0050).

Regarding claims 4, 6 Forslow teach wherein the network element that requested the mobile subscriber data uses said access parameter to prevent location updating in a network which the mobile subscriber is not entitled to use (para. # 0010-0012, 0030-0032 and 0050).

Regarding claims 7, 11, 13, 17 Forslow teach first network is a circuit-switch and second is packet-switched (para. # 0009, fig. 2).

Regarding claims 9, 16 Forslow teaches wherein the data structure is located in a home location register of the telecommunications system (para. # 0010-0012, 0030-0032 and 0050, fig. 2).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4, 6-9, 11, 13, 15-17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KHAWAR IQBAL whose telephone number is (571)272-7909. The examiner can normally be reached on Thursday's day.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, GEORGE ENG can be reached on 571-272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/George Eng/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617

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